

Bobby McAllister had a small, round secret in the back corner of the closet in his bedroom. It was brown with a wide red stripe. It sat very still underneath the dirty clothes, piles of shoes, and the baseball gear.

Bobby did not take this secret out of the closet very often. He had never shown it to his friends or family. He had found it in the ditch behind his house after a terrific thunderstorm. It must have washed down from the mountains. Whoever had lost it must have been very angry and probably wanted it back.

Bobby dug through the dirty clothes and gear. He reached far back in the closet and found his secret. It was a magic hat. It didn't look like anything special because it was worn and had holes in it. Bobby knew it was magic because it took him special places. When he wanted to go for a trip, he put the hat on.

Bobby began to fly through the air, soaring over the houses in his neighborhood. He looked down and saw his school. He thought that the kids playing in the yard were beginning to look like ants. He passed a flock of birds and said hello. They nodded their hellos and were on their way.

Bobby flew high up into the mountains, wondering where the magic hat would take him this time. It began to get warmer as he got closer to the sun. Suddenly he began to drop through the clouds, and Bobby began to worry that he would crash into the mountainside.

He closed his eyes to brace himself for the crash, only to feel a soft cushion of grass under his feet. He opened his eyes and saw a great bird before him. The bird was purple on its beak, and its back had long yellow feathers.

"Welcome to Feyland," said the bird in a deep voice. "Climb upon my back and I will give you a tour of the land from the air."

Bobby looked down and saw a wonderful city with streets made of ice cream. There was a pond, and children were splashing each other not with water but with root beer! A water fountain was spewing popcorn, and there were ladies in the park with long hair made of cotton candy.

Feyland looked so marvelous that Bobby told the great bird that he would like to visit for a long time.

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